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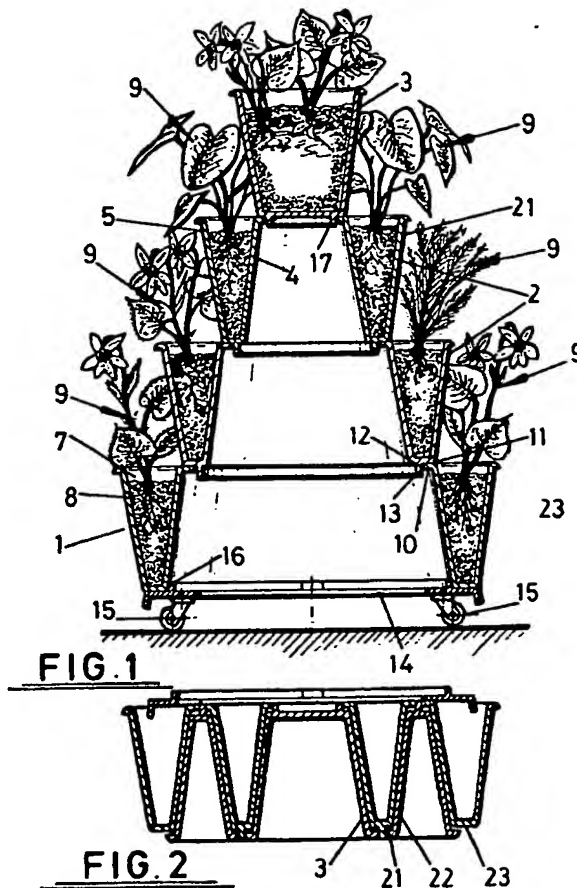
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(54) Terraced plant pots

(57) Annular plant pots are stacked one above another with a non-annular plant pot on top to form a terraced display. Each pot may have drainage holes in its base and the lowest pot may be supported on casters. The pots may be stored as shown in Fig. 2. The inner wall of each annular pot may be corrugated or fluted (Figs. 3 and 4). The pots may be of external circular, elliptical, oval or polygonal shape.



The drawings originally filed were informal and the print here reproduced is taken from a later filed formal copy.

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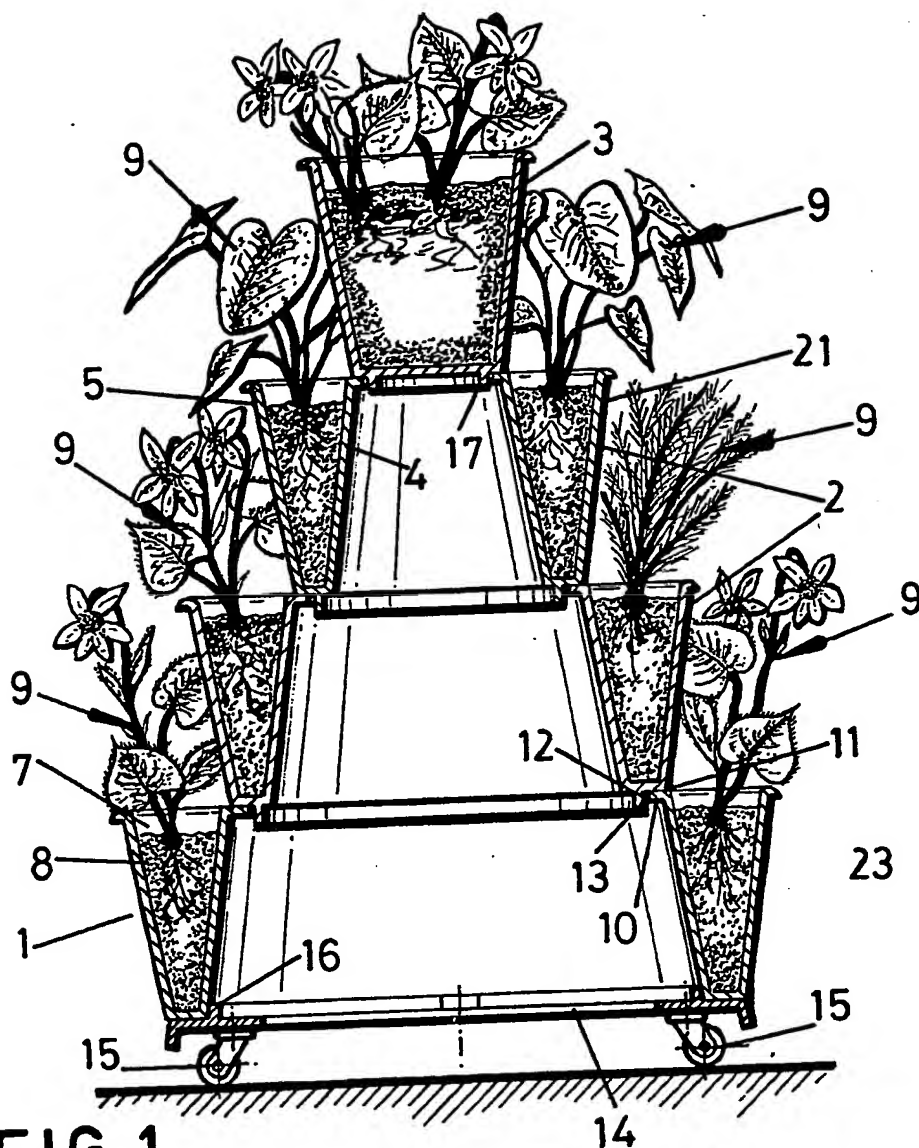


FIG. 1

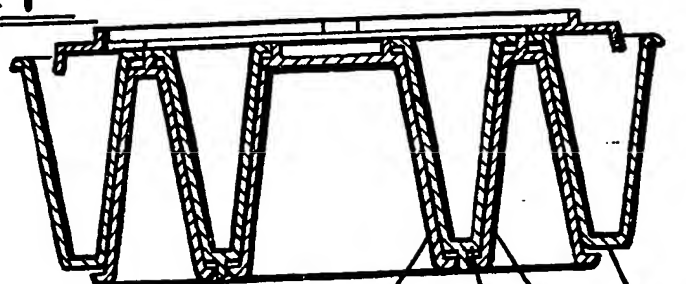


FIG. 2

2 — 2

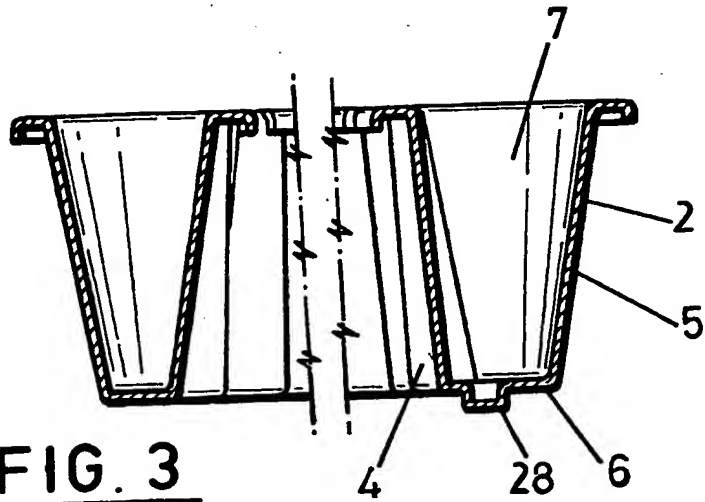


FIG. 3

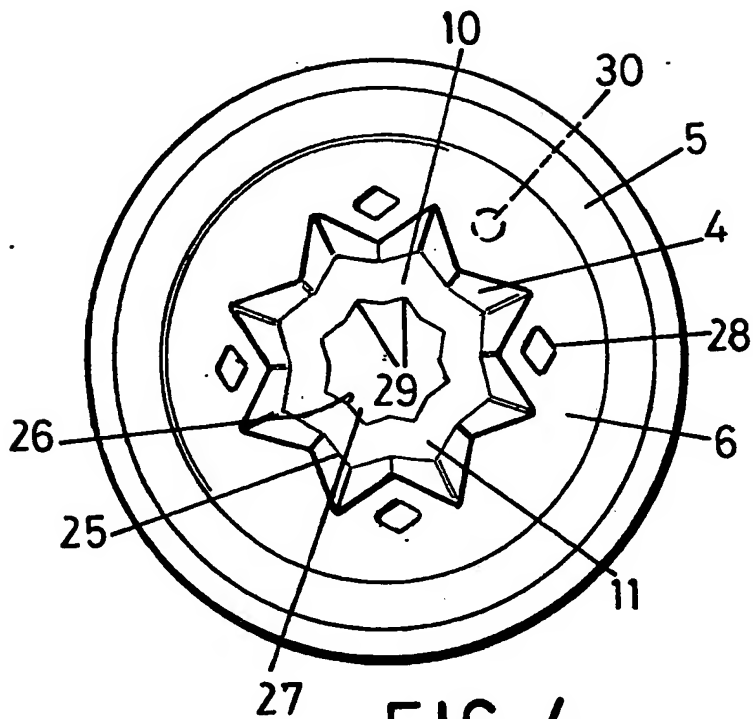


FIG. 4

SPECIFICATION

Plant pot

The present invention relates to plant pots and
5 plant pot assemblies.

In order to maximise utilisation of available floor
space for the growing of plants there have previously
been proposed plant pots in the form of generally
cylindrical tubs which are filled with growth medium
10 and have a plurality of apertures in the side at various
levels through which the stems of plants rooted
inside the tub can extend. Such tubs have a number
of disadvantages though. On the one hand because
they are more or less fully filled with soil they are
15 relatively heavy and can tip over. On the other hand
the plants are forced outwardly by the wall of the
plant pot at an unnatural angle and are shaded by the
vertically extending wall to an appreciable degree as
well as by other plants at higher levels to some
20 extent. It is an object of the present invention to avoid
or minimise one or more of the above mentioned
disadvantages and to provide a new form of plant pot
with improved access and ease of use.

The present invention provides an annular plant
25 pot.

According to the present invention the annular
plant pot may be generally round including circular,
elliptical or oval, or polygonal including triangular,
square or rectangular, pentagonal or hexagonal.

30 Preferably at least one of an upper portion of the
radially inner side wall and a lower portion of the
outer side wall or the base of said annular plant pot is
provided with engagement means for engagement
with the lower portion of the outer side wall or the
35 base, or the upper portion of radially inner side wall,
respectively of a further plant pot supported on or
supporting, said annular plant pot, against
substantial relative lateral displacement, said further
plant pot being dimensioned to be generally of a
40 smaller or larger, respectively, radial size than said
annular plant pot.

Thus with an annular plant pot of the present
invention it is possible to erect a plant pot assembly
comprising a plurality of plant pots of the invention
45 of progressively increasing radial size in a generally
pyramidal form with their open ends arranged as a
series of terraces. In general such an assembly would
be topped with a non-annular plant pot and in a
further aspect the present invention provides an
50 assembly comprising at least one annular plant pot
of the invention and a non-annular plant pot
dimensioned relative to said annular plant pot so that
the open end of said annular plant pot is disposed
substantially radially outwardly of the open end of
55 said non-annular plant pot.

In further aspects the present invention extends to
a plant pot and to a plant pot assembly of the
invention filled with a plant growth medium.

Further preferred features and advantages of the
60 invention will appear from the following detailed
description given by way of example of a preferred
embodiment illustrated with reference to the
accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a vertical sectional elevation through a
65 plant pot assembly of the invention in use; and

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the assembly of Fig. 1 in a
stowed configuration for transport or storage.

Fig. 1 shows a plant pot assembly 1 made up of a
plurality of annular plant pots 2 of progressively
70 reducing radial size stacked up on each other in a
generally pyramidal configuration topped by a
generally conventional form plant pot 3. Each of the
annular plant pots 2 has inclined radially inner and
outer side walls 4, 5 diverging away from each other
75 in the direction away from the annular base 6 so as to
define therebetween a generally trapezoidal section
annular recess 7 for receiving plant growth medium 8
such as soil, peat or the like in which may be grown
plants 9 in substantially conventional manner.

80 The inner side wall 4 has in each case a radially
inwardly extending flange 10 having an upper
support surface 11 on which may be supported the
base 6 of a further pot 2, 3, and a free edge 12 which
engages a vertically extending flange 13 depending
85 downwardly from the base 6 of said further pot 2, 3 so
as to prevent relative lateral displacement between
said annular pot 2 and said further pot 2, 3 supported
thereon. Thus said vertical flange 13 and the radially
inward flange 10 constitute respective engagement
90 means at the base and at an upper portion of the
inner side wall 4. As may be seen in Fig. 1 the largest
radial size, i.e. bottom, annular plant pot 23 has a
plain base which is supported on an annular base 14
mounted on a plurality of castor wheels 15, the inner
95 side wall 4, adjacent the pot base 6, engaging an
upwardly extending vertical flange 16 to securely
locate said pot 23 thereon. The topmost, non-
annular, plant pot 3 also has a vertical depending
flange 17 at its base 6 which engages the radially
100 inward flange 10 of the topmost annular plant pot 21.

As may be seen in Fig. 2 the individual plant pots 2,
3 of the assembly are formed and dimensioned so
that they can be inter-nested in a stowed
configuration having a depth approximately equal to
105 that of just one pot. In more detail it will be noted that
the pots are stacked with alternate ones reversed so
that the topmost one 3 is inverted, the smallest
annular one 21 placed over it in its normal attitude,
the next one 22 inverted, and so on.

110 In the assembled configuration shown in Fig. 1 it
may be noted that the plants are supported in a series
of terraces providing an attractive display whilst
allowing the plants to grow substantially upright and
minimising shading of plants at the lower levels.
115 Moreover the amount of growth medium used is kept
to a minimum whilst maximising stability with the
relatively large diameter base.

Figs. 3 and 4 show an annular pot of a modified
embodiment, Fig. 3 being a partial diametrical
120 vertical section of a modified annular pot, and Fig. 4 a
plan view of the pot of Fig. 3. In Figs. 3 and 4 like parts
corresponding to those in Figs. 1 and 2 are identified
by like reference numerals.

In the modified embodiment the radially inner wall
125 4 instead of being simply frusto-conical as is the
outer wall 5, is corrugated or fluted in order to
improve its load bearing capacity. As a result the
inwardly extending annular flange 10 has a generally
star-shaped outer periphery 25. The radially inner
130 periphery 26 extends generally parallel to the outer

periphery 25 thereby in turn defining a generally star-shaped central aperture 27.

Also in place of the downwardly extending vertical flange of the first embodiment, a different form of engagement means comprising a plurality of angularly spaced apart downwardly extending generally lozenge-shaped bosses 28 is provided in the base 6. These bosses 28 locate in the corners 29 of the star-shaped aperture 27 in the radially outward support flange 10 of the next annular pot 2 below.

In other respects the form and use of the plant pots is generally similar to that of conventional ones. Thus, for example, drainage holes 30 may be provided in the base 6 if required.

CLAIMS

1. An annular plant pot.
2. A plant pot according to claim 1 which is generally round or polygonal in horizontal cross-section.
3. A plant pot according to claim 2 which is generally circular, elliptical, oval, triangular, square or rectangular, pentagonal, or hexagonal in horizontal cross-section.
4. A plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein at least one of an upper portion of the radially inner side wall and a lower portion of the outer side wall or the base of said annular plant pot is provided with engagement means for engagement with the lower portion of the outer side wall or the base, or the upper portion of radially inner side wall, respectively of a further plant pot supported on or supporting, said annular plant pot, against substantial relative lateral displacement, said further plant pot being dimensioned to be generally of a smaller or larger, respectively, radial size than said annular plant pot.

5. A plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the radially inner and radially outer walls are mutually inclined away from each other in the direction from the base to the upper open end of the pot.

6. A plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein at least said radially inner wall is corrugated or fluted.

7. A plant pot according to claim 6 which has in its base a plurality of downwardly depending projections formed and arranged for engagement in the corners of a polygonal central aperture defined by an annular flange extending radially inwardly from the upper end of the radially inner wall.

8. An annular plant pot substantially as described hereinbefore with particular reference to Figs. 1 and 2 or Figs. 3 and 4 of the accompanying drawings.

9. A plant pot assembly comprising a plurality of plant pots according to any one of claims 1 to 8 which pots are of progressively increasing radial size, said pots being assembled in a generally pyramidal form with their open ends arranged as a series of terraces.

10. A plant pot assembly comprising at least one annular plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 8 and a non-annular plant pot dimensioned relative to said annular plant pot so that the open end of said annular plant pot is disposed substantially radially outwardly of the open end of said non-annular plant pot.

11. A plant pot assembly substantially as described hereinbefore with particular reference to Figs. 1 and 2 or Figs. 1 and 2 as modified by Figs. 3 and 4, of the accompanying drawings.

12. A plant pot or plant pot assembly according to any one of the preceding claims which pot or pot assembly is filled with a plant growth medium.